

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 6114-04
Bill No.: Perfected HCS for HB 1902
Subject: Elections
Type: Original
Date: March 12, 2014

Bill Summary: This proposal changes the presidential primary election from February to March.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
General Revenue	\$0	(\$37,495,000)	\$0
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	(\$37,495,000)	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 6 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☐ Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).

☒ Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume this proposal changes the date of the Presidential Preference Primary to the second Tuesday after the first Monday in March of each presidential election year.

By moving the Presidential Preference Primary Election to the second Tuesday after the first Monday in March, this leaves approximately three weeks between the Presidential Primary and the general municipal election. Voting machines may need to be reprogrammed to accommodate the general municipal election. In the event that local election authorities do not have sufficient time to reprogram their voting machines, additional voting machines may need to be purchased. Because it is difficult to estimate the number of machines needed, the estimated costs are unknown but may be up to \$37,495,000.

For purposes of this fiscal note, it is unclear whether the funding for this proposal will be provided by the state or local governments.

Moving the election too close to the April Municipal election would cause the SOS to have to purchase additional voting systems for the local election authorities. **Oversight** will reflect the cost of the machines in the fiscal note as the estimate provided by SOS.

Officials at the **Platte County Board of Election Commission** assume this would require the purchase of a separate voting system that would create a one-time cost of \$177,000. The current voting systems would already be in use for the April election making it necessary to purchase additional equipment.

Officials at the **St. Louis County Board of Election Commission** assume this proposal would add about \$500,000 to the election cycle costs. This would cover the additional costs of overtime, additional machines and logistical issues as we will be simultaneously performing two elections (March Presidential and April Municipal).

Officials at the **Jackson County Board of Election Board (JCEB)** assume they do not hold a March election. JCEB does however have a February primary for our largest entity Independence, MO along with our April General Municipal Election which could include 18 cities, 10 school districts, 8 fire districts and 11 water districts.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Currently JCEB does not have enough equipment to conduct back-to-back elections and follow current law on equipment loading and retention of votes. The purchase of additional equipment would need to take place in early 2015, to be prepared for the 2016 election dates this bill would require. Approximate cost of equipment for conduct of a March Presidential Primary would be \$2 million dollars for approximately 200 polls and providing a Precinct Ballot Counter, ADA device and laptops costs for our e-poll-books. It will also increase payroll costs. Part-timers would need to be hired for conduct three elections in three months.

Officials at the **Johnson County** assume the cost of the Presidential Preference Primary would be the same, approximately \$45,000 to \$50,000 for Johnson County, regardless of whether the election is held in February or March. The issue is the actual day. This proposal would hold the election the third Tuesday after the first Monday in March. In 2016, the first Monday is March 7th. If I am calculating correctly, the third Tuesday after the first Monday is March 22nd. That would mean that we would have a Presidential Primary and a General Municipal election within two weeks of each other. Training and additional judges would be necessary. The impact for all of this is unknown.

Oversight assumes this proposal moves the election to the second Tuesday after the first Monday in March. In Fiscal Year 2016, the date of the next Presidential Primary would become March 15, 2016. Having this election too close to the April Municipal election would result in the need for additional voting systems.

Officials at the following board of election commissions: Kansas City Board of Election Commission, St. Louis City Board of Election Commission and Clay County Board of Election Commission did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

Officials at the following counties: Andrew, Audrain, Barry, Bates, Boone, Buchanan, Callaway, Camden, Cape Girardeau, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Cole, Cooper, DeKalb, Franklin, Greene, Holt, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Laclede, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Miller, Moniteau, Monroe, Montgomery, New Madrid, Nodaway, Ozark, Perry, Pettis, Phelps, Platte, Pulaski, Scott, St. Charles, St. Louis, St. Francois, Taney, Warren, Wayne and Worth did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	FY 2016	FY 2017
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Cost</u> - Secretary of State - purchase of additional voting equipment	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$37,495,000)</u>	<u>\$0</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$37,495,000)</u>	<u>\$0</u>
 <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	 FY 2015 (10 Mo.)	 FY 2016	 FY 2017
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

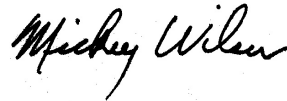
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill changes the presidential primary date from the first Tuesday after the first Monday in February to the second Tuesday after the first Monday in March.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Jackson County Board of Election Commission
Johnson County
Office of the Secretary of State
Platte County Board of Election Commission
St. Louis County Board of Election Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mickey Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
March 12, 2014

Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
March 12, 2014